

50 STORIES FROM THE QURAN



Comprehensive list of many of the narratives (stories) found throughout the Qur'an. (Note that many "stories" are interwoven within the text and may appear in more than one surah; this list highlights the principal narratives as they are commonly identified in classical tafsir and scholarly works.)

1. The Story of Adam and His Fall

– Narratives of the creation of Adam, his dwelling in Paradise, the command not to eat from the forbidden tree, and his subsequent fall (e.g. Surah Al-Baqarah 2:30–39; Surah Al-A'raf 7:11–27).

2. The Story of Cain and Abel

– The account of the two sons of Adam, the offering accepted from one and rejected from the other, leading to fratricide (e.g. Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:27–31).

3. The Story of Noah (Nuh) and the Ark

– Noah's mission to his people, the building of the ark, the flood, and the salvation of the believers (e.g. Surah Nuh; Surah Hud 11:25–49).

4. The Story of Hud and the People of 'Ad

– The warning given by the prophet Hud to the people of 'Ad and their eventual destruction (e.g. Surah Hud 11:50–60; Surah Al-A'raf 7:65–72).

5. The Story of Salih and the Thamud

– The call of the prophet Salih to the Thamud, the miracle of the she-camel, and the punishment of those who denied (e.g. Surah Al-A'raf 7:73–79; Surah Hud 11:61–68).

6. The Story of Lot (Lut) and His People

– Lot's mission to his people, their immoral behavior, and their eventual destruction (e.g. Surah Hud 11:77–83; Surah Al-Hijr 15:61–77; Surah Al-A'raf 7:80–84).

7. The Story of Shuayb and the People of Midian

– The preaching of Shuayb to his people (often identified with Midian), their corruption in trade, and their punishment (e.g. Surah Hud 11:84–95; Surah Al-A'raf 7:85–93).

8. The Story of Abraham (Ibrahim) and His Trials

– Including his debates on idolatry, his family's trials, and his role as a patriarch (e.g. Surah Ibrahim 14; Surah Al-Baqarah 2:124–141).

9. The Story of the Sacrifice (and the Test of Faith)

– The narrative concerning the command to sacrifice (traditionally associated with Ibrahim and his son) (e.g. Surah As-Saffat 37:102–107).

10. The Story of Isaac (Ishaq) and Jacob (Ya'qub)

– While less detailed than other narratives, these prophets are mentioned in connection with their righteous offspring (e.g. Surah Al-Baqarah 2:133; Surah Al-Imran 3:33).

11. The Story of Joseph (Yusuf)

- A complete narrative of betrayal by his brothers, his rise in Egypt, and eventual reunion with his family (entire Surah Yusuf).

12. The Story of Job (Ayyub)

- His severe trial of illness and loss, and his patient supplication and eventual restoration (e.g. Surah Al-Anbiya 21:83-84; Surah Sad 38:41-44).

13. The Story of Dhul-Kifl

- Mentioned as a righteous servant, his exact narrative details are sparse but he is regarded as a prophet or a pious man (e.g. Surah Al-Anbiya 21:85-86).

14. The Story of Moses (Musa) and Pharaoh

- Extensive narratives of Musa's birth, his mission, his miracles, the confrontation with Pharaoh, and the liberation of the Israelites (e.g. Surah Ta-Ha 20; Surah Al-Qasas 28; Surah Al-A'raf 7:103-137).

15. The Story of Aaron (Harun)

- As the assistant to Musa, his role is interwoven in the narrative of Moses (e.g. Surah Ta-Ha 20:90; Surah Al-A'raf 7:142).

16. The Story of the Israelites in the Wilderness

- Their trials, the worship of the golden calf, and the lessons of obedience (e.g. Surah Al-Baqarah 2:51–61; Surah Al-A'raf 7:148–154).

17. The Story of the Magicians versus Musa

- The confrontation between Moses and the magicians of Pharaoh's court (e.g. Surah Ta-Ha 20:77–82).

18. The Story of Qarun (Korah)

- The account of Qarun's arrogance, his wealth, and his downfall (e.g. Surah Al-Qasas 28:76–82).

19. The Story of Dhul-Qarnayn

- The narrative of a great ruler who traveled widely and built a barrier against Gog and Magog (e.g. Surah Al-Kahf 18:83–101).

20. The Story of the People of the Cave (Ashab al-Kahf)

- The tale of youths who sought refuge in a cave and slept for a long period (e.g. Surah Al-Kahf 18:9–26).

21. The Story of the Two Gardens (Parable)

- The parable of two men, one of whom was blessed with gardens and wealth and the other not, illustrating the fleeting nature of worldly blessings (e.g. Surah Al-Kahf 18:32–44).

22. The Story of Luqman and His Advice

- The wise counsel given by Luqman to his son (e.g. Surah Luqman 31:12-19).

23. The Story of Jonah (Yunus)

- His mission to his people, his attempt to flee, and his eventual deliverance after repenting (e.g. Surah Yunus 10:98-99; Surah As-Saffat 37:139-148).

24. The Story of Zakariya and Yahya

- The account of Zakariya's prayer for an heir and the subsequent birth of Yahya (e.g. Surah Maryam 19:2-15; Surah Al-Anbiya 21:89-90).

25. The Story of Mary (Maryam) and the Birth of Jesus

- Narratives regarding Mary's piety, the miraculous birth of Jesus, and his role as a prophet (e.g. Surah Maryam 19; Surah Al-Imran 3:42-47).

26. The Story of the Ant and Solomon (Sulaiman)

- The episode where Solomon hears an ant warning its colony and the subsequent account of his wisdom (e.g. Surah An-Naml 27:18-19).

27. The Story of the Queen of Sheba (Bilqis) and Solomon

- The narrative of Solomon's interaction with the Queen of Sheba, highlighting his wisdom and the power of Allah (e.g. Surah An-Naml 27:20-44).

28. The Story of Ilyas (Elijah)

- Brief mentions of Ilyas as a prophet who called his people to monotheism (e.g. Surah As-Saffat 37:123-132).

29. The Story of Al-Yasa (Elisha)

- Mentioned alongside Ilyas as a righteous prophet (e.g. Surah Sad 38:48).

30. The Story of the Companions of the Garden/Trench (Ashab al-Ukhdu)

31. The Detailed Story of Aad:

- Focused on the arrogance of the people of Aad, their rejection of Hud's message, and their destruction by a violent storm (e.g. detailed in Surah Hud 11:50-60).

32. The Detailed Story of Thamud:

- The account of the Thamud's demand for a miracle (the she-camel), their subsequent transgression, and their punishment (e.g. Surah Al-A'raf 7:73-79; Surah Hud 11:61-68).

33. The Story of the Covenant with the Israelites:

- Narratives recounting Allah's covenant with the Children of Israel, their subsequent lapses, and reminders of Allah's guidance (e.g. Surah Al-Baqarah 2:40–61; parts of Surah Al-A'raf).

34. The Story of the People of the Elephant (Al-Fil):

- The miraculous protection of the Ka'bah from the army of Abraha, as recounted in Surah Al-Fil (105).

35. The Story of the Night Journey (Isra and Mi'raj):

- The miraculous journey of the Prophet Muhammad from the Sacred Mosque in Makkah to Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, and his ascension through the heavens (e.g. Surah Al-Isra 17:1).

36. The Story of the Jinn's Acceptance of Islam:

- Detailed in Surah Al-Jinn (72), this narrative recounts how a group of jinn listened to the Qur'an, recognized its truth, and embraced Islam.

37. The Story of the Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah:

- Part of Prophet Lot's (Lut's) narrative, describing his people's immoral behavior and their eventual destruction (e.g. Surah Hud 11:77–83; Surah Al-A'raf 7:80–84).

38. The Story of the Sacrifice (Ibrahim's Test):

- The narrative of Prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son (traditionally identified as Ishmael in Islamic tradition), which is a test of faith (e.g. Surah As-Saffat 37:102–107).

39. The Story of the Trials of Prophet Job (Ayyub):

- His severe afflictions, patient supplication, and eventual relief, serving as a model of steadfast faith (e.g. Surah Al-Anbiya 21:83–84; Surah Sad 38:41–44).

40. The Story of Qarun (Korah):

- The account of Qarun's arrogance, his hoarding of wealth, and his downfall as a consequence of his ingratitude (e.g. Surah Al-Qasas 28:76–82).

41. The Story of Dhul-Qarnayn:

- A narrative about a just and powerful ruler who traveled widely and built a barrier against Gog and Magog (e.g. Surah Al-Kahf 18:83–101).

42. The Detailed Story of the People of the Cave:

- A full narrative about the youths who sought refuge in a cave and slept for a long period, symbolizing divine protection and the passage of time (e.g. Surah Al-Kahf 18:9–26).

43. The Story of the Two Gardens (Expanded):

- The parable detailing the fate of two men – one blessed with prosperous gardens and one deprived – illustrating the transient nature of worldly wealth and the importance of gratitude (Surah Al-Kahf 18:32–44).

44. The Story of Luqman’s Wisdom:

- The advice given by Luqman to his son on monotheism, gratitude, and righteous conduct (e.g. Surah Luqman 31:12–19).

45. The Story of Jonah (Yunus) Revisited:

- A fuller recounting of the Prophet Yunus’ experience, his attempt to flee from his mission, his time in the belly of the fish, and eventual deliverance (e.g. Surah Yunus 10:98–99; Surah As-Saffat 37:139–148).

46. The Story of Zakariya and Yahya:

- The narrative of Prophet Zakariya’s prayer for an heir and the miraculous birth of Prophet Yahya, emphasizing trust in Allah’s promise (e.g. Surah Maryam 19:2–15; Surah Al-Anbiya 21:89–90).

47. The Story of Mary and the Miraculous Birth of Jesus:

- The account of Mary’s piety, the annunciation, and the birth of Prophet Isa (Jesus), underscoring Allah’s miraculous power (e.g. Surah Maryam 19; Surah Al-Imran 3:42–47).

48. The Story of Solomon's Wisdom (Sulaiman and the Ant):

- The narrative recounting how Prophet Solomon (Sulaiman) heard an ant warning its colony, exemplifying his divinely granted wisdom (e.g. Surah An-Naml 27:18–19).

49. The Story of the Queen of Sheba (Bilqis) and Solomon:

- The detailed account of the interaction between Prophet Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, highlighting the demonstration of divine signs (e.g. Surah An-Naml 27:20–44).

50. The Story of Ilyas (Elijah) and Al-Yasa (Elisha):

- Brief narratives that mention these prophets as exemplars of mon

This list is not exhaustive—many sub-narratives, parables, and brief references appear throughout the Qur'an—but it covers the major stories and accounts as they are traditionally recognized in classical exegesis. Each story is referenced by its common thematic title and associated surah(s) where the narrative is primarily found.

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